procedures have been put in place for scrutinizing ships arriving for breaking and for handling and disposing of hazardous materials and wastes. The provisions of existing rules take adequate care of the hazards of ship breaking. Further, as and when any shortcomings are noticed, remedial steps are taken.

Expansion plan of steel PSUs

1829. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel PSUs have embarked on an ambitious expansion plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far; and

(d) how far Jharkhand figures in this expansion plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has undertaken modernisation and expansion of its plants *viz.* Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) in Chhattisgarh, Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) in Jharkhand, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) in Orissa, Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) and IISCO Steel Plant (ISP) in West Bengal and Salem Steel Plant (SSP) in Tamil Nadu. SAIL envisages increasing the installed capacity of hot metal from 13.82 million tonne per annum to 23.46 million tonne per annum in the current phase. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) in Andhra Pradesh is implementing expansion plans to augment its liquid steel production capacity from 3 million tonnes to 6.3 million tonnes per annum.

(c) The orders for major packages of expansion of ISP and SSP of SAIL as well as expansion of VSP, RINL have been placed. Part packages of expansion of BSP, RSP, BSL and DSP have been placed. These ordered packages are under various stages of execution.

(d) The expansion plan of SAIL includes modernisation and expansion of its integrated Steel plant at Bokaro in the State of Jharkhand. Modernisation and expansion of Bokaro Steel Plant envisages increase in hot metal production capacity from 4.59 million tonne per annum to 5.77 million tonne per annum in the current phase.

Revival of steel industry to check job losses

1830. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking fresh measures to check job losses and revive manufacturing sectors in the steel industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the targets fixed for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) : (a) and (b) There is no loss of job in any of the public sector steel units under the administrative control of the Ministry of Steel. On the other hand, the public sector steel units, Steel Authority of India

Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) are undertaking huge capacity expansion of the existing steel units, in order to boost their steel production. SAIL is expanding its hot metal production capacity from 13.82 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 23.46 MTPA for completion by 2012-13. Similarly, RINL is also undertaking its capacity expansion from 3.0 MTPA of liquid steel to 6.3 MTPA for completion by 2011-12.

(c) Since projects of SAIL and RINL are planned for completion during the oncoming years, there will not be any capacity addition during the current year 2009-10.

Revival of Kudremukh iron-ore mines

1831. SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) when the Kudremukh iron-ore mines in the State of Karnataka was closed;

(b) the extent of financial loss incurred by way of rendering various constructions including pipelines constructed for purpose of transporting iron ore from the mines to Mangalore port and roads and buildings constructed for the purpose of mines useless and also the recurring loss every year;

(c) whether there is any proposal on the part of Government to revive the Kudremukh iron-ore mines; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) : (a) Consequent upon the verdict of Hon'ble Supreme Court, mining operations at Kudremukh Iron Ore Mines in Karnataka was stopped on 31st December, 2005.

(b) KIOCL Ltd. has written off Rs.71.65 crores during 2005-06, being the written down value of plant and machinery and building, as on the date of closure of Kudremukh Mine. KIOCL Ltd. is incurring an expenditure of around Rs.60 crores per annum on Kudremukh site towards salary and other amenities of employees posted at Kudremukh, security of plant and machinery and for maintenance of plant and equipment at Kudremukh.

(c) and (d) Restarting of Kudremukh mining activities cannot be undertaken without specific clearance from the Hon'ble Supreme Court, hence no specific time frame can be fixed for reopening of the mine.

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12.00 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (2007-08) of NCPSL, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-